THE NEW-JERSEY RAILROAD BELT. APPROACHES TO NEW-YORK-THE MULTIPLECATION

OF ROADS.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sin: For a just comprehension of the railroad future of the country, of that condition to which it must finally be compelled by natural causes, independently of all the forces and rivalries of capital, and beyoud the centrol of stock-jobbers, there must be some little study of the physical geography of the country and the compulsions which Nature exerts. Accepting New-York as the Yankee Rome to which all roads toust lead, there are three, and only three systems of railways that center at the month of the Hudson River. We exclude from the count all that vast congeries of railroads in the Southern and Western States. Whether from San Francisco er New-Orleans, in all their wilderness of connectious and rivalries, they tend alike to certain cen tral points which the instincts of commerce have selected, not so much to accommodate the broad Western faces railroads may be built at will in any direction, as to find a guteway to the ocean one and greatest harbor which forms the focus for the shipping of the Atlantic coast. These central points are, for the South, Baltimore; for the West, Plusburgh; for the North-West, Raffalo. The two former biend into one to crossing New-Jersey to the The three systems, then, consist, first of Baltimore and Pittsburgh bleaded, carrying the trade of the South and West; of buffalo, bringing the excents of the North-West down the valleys of the Mehawk and the Delaware; and of the New-Earland chain, which has already satisfactions and established its future. All these obey the laws of physical geography with rare exceptions, the most notable being the numerous lines, of which the Midland is the foremest, which cross the water-shed between the Mohawk-or say the Eric Canal and the Dalaware. But these all tend toward New-York, and are merely annatomores of arteries which have a common destination. They are stlings adapted to a single volume of travel and traffir, and, so long as the grout lakes float their fleets, they be the conduits of the lake region and its extensions by the Northern Pacific, through the fertile valley of the Red River of the North, and so on to the Pacific. A line seems definitely drawn by the mountains on the northern boundary of Pennsylvania which compels the take region to keep to the north of it n reaching the sea shore. All that the central system wins from it is by the strain of an actificial competition, nitracts the flow of commerce. But the central and land in southern ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, grasp the bulk of the business from Culcago to New-Oriems, and old the larger share of the trans-Mississippi trade, are, if they would reach New-York, compelled to crowd hemselves into a narrow belt of land, a throat-way, in the State of New-Jerrey, wide enouge and funnal-shaped at the southern end, but contracting as it nears the Hudson to limits surprisingly narrow. On the north and west is precipitous range of mountains, which might be tauseled, only that it lies parallel to and not across the desired route. To the south and east are Newark Bay, the Kills, Staten Island, and Raritan Bay, all of them seles. Between them and the mountain the volume of continental traffic must pour, if it follows the most direct and in every way feasible route to the sea To avoid this strait it must climb mountains to descend sgain, or ferry navigable waters when the dry land lie open on the left. The witth of this New-Jersey Railroad di is much narrower than is generally supposed. The former lungging class to the mountain, is only about five miles. From Springfield, close under the mountain to Elizabethport, the entire width of the belt is only seven miles. From Orange Mountain to Newark Bay s seven miles. Even as we reach the open country, the belt, on a cross-section from Plainfield to Raritan Bay, is only ten miles white. In this narrow space must be crowded all the continuous rail travel which fluds its entrapot in Pittsburgh and Bairimore, its relay-hogse in Philadelphia, its depot in Jersey City, and its final destination in New-York. What wonder then that competition should be easer for the possession of rights of way through this priceless valley, walled in by mountain on the one sine and fringed by the sea upon

Within the week, a company known as the "New-Jersey Rancoud Company," has secured a charter, under the recently enacted General Law, to build a road across the State, rouning almost parallel with the New-York and Philadelphia road, organized last week under the same law. The New-Jersey Road is a tender to the Pennsylvania, giving it the four tracks which it is ow constructing from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, and which with a liberal addition of sidings will enable t to disgotae on the Hudson the bulk it took abourd at Philadelphia or gathered along the line. The New-York ore and Gato. For both of them, and for others like them, there is room in the immediate fature. The Delaware and Hudson, and the Pacumatic Tabe Company may seen be expected to apply for charters, and the stion will then be as to how much room is left in the Southern route, now well under way, from New-York to Sandy Hook by steam forry, and thence across Newpressure on the belt. The physical condition is that all rail routes south from New-York must keep as far west as Newark or Edzabeth. Those which move by rail and water conducted have the whole of New-Jersey south of the Baritan open to their occupation. New-York, April 12, 1873.

### COLONIES AS INDIAN CIVILIZERS. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sin: "What shall be done with the Indians?" After all the efforts to civilize, Christianize, or " subdue the Indians, it seems to me that one of the means, as yet but partially tried, would not only tend to the "civilizing" of the "poor Indian" in a practical way, but would benefit the whites as well. I refer to the settlement of large tracts of Government land by bodies of trustworthy and steady men, with their families, carrying with them the civilizing tendency of compact communities, provided with the means of self-protection. It need scarcely be said that the best protection for an

individual or settlement is the knowledge, on the part of the attacking party, that these to be attacked are able to protect themselves. Congress could, if it chose, by judicions legislation, insure the speedy actilement of large tracts of Government land by colonies, whether "soldier colonies" or others, by aiding such colonies to protect themselves, and also

securing to them, by reservation, in specified tracts for a specified term, for actual settlement only, such toestions as may be selected by the agents or locat-ing committees of such colonies. Thus the colonies would be secured from "land grabbers," who would otherwise not be slow to get the lion's share limit in the indicators vicines. Since choices have even been swindled out of their proposed locations by designing men before they arrived upon the ground. By a reservation in favor or colomes of larve tracts in such a way that, while actual individual sentlement would be necessary to secure a title, the colony would have control of a fract large ground to enable it or its areans to forward members from time to time to fill up the whole tract, nobody would be definited, and the Government would secure the astitument of the public along the by the best civilizer of nodern times, vix; compost formings. Many roof men, both solders and other, would gladly avail themselves of such opportunities, who are now holding back on account of Indias, land-sharjers, or want or means to cope with the difficulties of the situation. The soldiers as a cass would receive much more real beneat from such associated settlement of Government lands than from any amount of 'land warrants' is used for the benefit of "agents" and speculators, under a "Soldiers' Bounty Lind hill."

Philadelphia, April 8, 1873. W. H. H. BRADBURY.

# KANSAS VIEWS ON HOMESTEAD LAW.

To the Editor of The Tribune. SIR: In your issue of the 12th inst., I see that you give the new Homestead bill, as passed by our last Scinte. You opposed the passage of the bill granting 160 acres of land to the soldiers without compelling them to reside thereon, and in this you represented the views of nearly all the "homesteaders" here, as they too thought it a "land-grab scheme." They feared that it would be a real damage to them, and would cause a depreciation in the value of their claims. But in what manner will this last bill benefit those here or those to comet You are well aware very few "homesteaders" have much money. To break the sod of 40 acres will cost from \$140 to \$160; to get the land in good condition will cost as much more. Add to this the cost of forest trees-no small item-and you will see that few men of small means can go into it. More land must be broken to make a living from, and money must be had to buy the necessaries of life until the crop can grow; and the compulsory residence or cultivation for five years is a feature in the law that very few poor men will ever feature in the law that very property of approve of. As the bill now stands, there will be very sperious ever taken under it, for no one but few quarter-sections ever taken under it, for no one but a wealthy man can avail himself of its benefits. And to a wealthy man can avail himself of its benefits. And to see men here who are well posted in regard to what the cost of cultivating to naive in timber would amount to, the bill seems very much like a "land-grap" scheme, as the bill seems very much like a "land-grap" scheme. ed to sanction. Many here say that a for better way

would have been to offer some premium of value to each and every "homesteader" who would plant in forest trees say five or ten acres. But this bill amounts to very little to any section where Government land is all taken, as is the case in a large portion of the most de-sirable part of Kansas.

Peabody, Kansas, March 28, 1873.

THE SALARY GRAB.

ROBBERY OF EIGHTEEN MILLIONS BY CONGRESSMEN. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sin: The million and a half of dollars stolen by Congressmen, and pocketed under the head of increased salaries, does not at all represent the real aggregate of that robbery. Tals million and a half is really only the biennial interest of the amount taken from the pockets of the people. In fact, not quite that. Because the next Congress, by virtue of the robbery of this, will be emitted to receive an extra \$1,800,000, the number of its members being increased by the new apportionment, The real sum stolen, therefore, is \$15,000,000. The act of increasing the salaries from \$5,000 to \$7,500 imposes a perpetual annual charge on the Treasury and the people of \$300,000. This is exactly five per cent on \$18,000,000, which is the rate at which the Treasury is now borrowing money. The effect of the increase of the salaries is precisely that, therefore, which would have been produced if Congress had issued bonds for \$18,000,000, sold them, and stolen the proceeds, and left the people to pay the interest on them. That act would have pelled an annual tax of just \$000,000, and this is just what the people have now had added to their taxes, by the swindling operation of their representutives. It would have been cheaper for the Treasury and the people, in the end, if the rascals had voted themselves a plump sum of \$50,000 a piece, and gone home with the plunder. This would have taken only a little over \$16,000,000 out of the Treasury, instead of \$18,000,000, as the thing now stands. The upshot of this whole operation is, therefore, in effect, that the national debt has been increased \$18,000,000, in order that a parcel of begenriy legislators in Congress might pocket

The question new to be considered is, whether that addition to the debt shall be allowed to stand, or whether the people will not insist upon abrogating the law by which it was saddled upon the country. I say, repeal the law. As to the men who originated and accomplished this despicable robbery, not one of them should ever be allowed to show his head in Congress again. If men who have hitherto stood well choose to make idiots of themselves by indorsing such knavery, they must take the consequences. They knew better. They knew that every dictate of manly honor and integrity forbade it. They knew it as forbidden by the express rule of Congress, which declares that no man shall vote on a measure in which he has a personal interest, a rule at all times enforced. If a law raising Congressional salaries is to be passed, it can only honestly apply to a future Congress. It is a brazen theft in members to make it apply to themselves. prazer their in members to make it apply to themselves. Public indignation has been aroused over recent public events here as it was never aroused before. There is dauger of its being dissipated because of party ties. But in this case it can be and ought to be concentrated without party prejudice, for all parties are alike implicated, it is of no use to try to save individuals at the expense of public justice. They have made their bed and must lie on it. It is the boldest robbery ever heard of. In yiew of the public excitement over recent developments. is of no lise to. They have made their near of. In on it. It is the boldest robbery ever heard of. In w of the public excitement over recent developments, is like a thief undertaking to stead under the glare of Drummond light. Of all the infamous things done by ongressment, I know of none which approaches this. Washington, D. C., April 5, 1873. Yours. P.

#### SELFISHNESS IN THE STREET CAR. To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: I have noticed, when riding in the treet-cars, that gentlemen (or those who assume to be such) frequently cross their legs and sit with extended feet, so as to take up two-thirds or more of the passageway. This is a ridiculous custom, and not only indicates thougatiessness and selfishness on their part, but it is a thoughtlessness and self-siness on their part, but it is a mark of ill-breeding. As to the discomfort and inconvenience it occasions, those ands of daily sufferers beside myself can testify. Many lattes are deterred from entering street-cars, unless compelled to do so, by fear of many to their persons as well as skirts. If the lay of courtesy and kindness is to be ignored in our public conveyances, surely common decency and self-respect ought to prevent any one from ladulging in a practice so directly opposed to the comfort and convenience of others.

Nan-Tark, March 28, 1873. New-York, March 28, 1873.

THE CHILDREN'S FOE.

RAVAGES OF SCAPLET PEYER DURING THE WINTER-DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF FATAL CASES

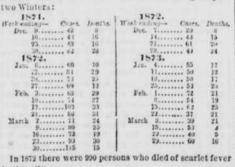
Of the contagious diseases which have afflicted this city during the past Winter, scarlet fever has excited most alarm. The weekly reports of City Sanitary Inspector Janes made this fact strikingly apparent; smallpox, the most deadly of all, rarely rising above 30 cases, thile searlet fever brought low as many as 72 a week, Most of the persons attacked were children. Sanitary measures to prevent the disease from increasing were taken by the Board of Health; but for many weeks the resistance seemed to be in valu. The disease had no sconer been stamped out in one part of the city than it appeared in another quarter, and the struggle to suppress if had to be repeated. The main difficulty in the way of a complete conquest of the the attendance at school of children in the first singes of sickness. Other children in this manner became infected with the contagion, and the disease gradually spread brough the school. Every effort was made, of e by the school teachers to keep the disease out of their schools; but in many instances it was not until it had attacked many of the children that it was discovered. Children manifesting symptoms of the disease were then forbidden to go to the school and parents were informed that no scholar would be received from a house wherein scarlet over had attacked any one. City Sanitary Inspector Janes ordered the Health Inspectors as soon as a case was reported to hasten to the patient's house, where, after examining the apartment in which he lay, they were to see if the ventilation was good; and if it was not, the putient's friends were requested to remove him to a room in better sanitary condition. The room of the sick person was then thoroughly disinfected, as well as all the clothing and bedding. The entire use was also disinfected, and all persons were cautioned against visiting the patient. There being no hospital set apart for the special use of scarlet-fever pa-tients, all persons sick of this disease were allowed to emain in the care of friends. The Inspectors gave to the friends of the sick person the following table of directions for dealing with scarlet fever; the rules being

directions for dealing with searlet fever; the rules being equally applicable to small-pox and measles:

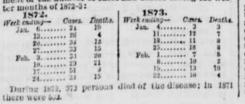
Case or Patterns.—The patient should be placed in a separate room, and no person except the physician, narse, or mother, allowed to enter the room or to fouch the beding or cotaning used in the sack room, until they have been theroughly disinfected.

INFLETED ARTICLES.—All clothing, bedding, or other articles not absolutely necessary for the use of the patient should be removed from the sick-room. Articles used about the patient, such as absects, pillow-cases, blankets, or clothes, must not be removed from the sick-room unit they have been disinfected, by placing them in a tub with the following disinfecting fluid: Eight ounces of sulphate of the, one cance of carbolic acid, and three railfons of water. The cloth should be soaked in this fluid for at lease one hour, and then placed in boding water for washing. A piece of mustin, one toot square, should be dipped in the same solution and suspended in the sick-room constantly, and a similar distincting cloth should be fung up in the ballway adjoining the same. Fetcher bods and allows, bely sullow. ting eacth should be long up in the ballway adjoining sick-room. Feather bous and pilows, har pillow d mattesses, and flannels or woolen goods requir-nigation, and should not be removed from the sick

Although the number of persons attacked during the as not been as virulent nor the number of cases as large as usual. The fact of the decrease of the disease may be clearly seen by comparing the number of cases and deaths of both years. The following is a tabulated statement of the number of cases and deaths during the pas



in this city. The disease in Brooklyn has not assumed a very viruent form during the past Winter, and the number of cases has been remarkably small as compared with past years. The Health Officer, Dr. Otterson, has taken the flame precautions against the disease as the Health Department of this city. The following is a tabulated statement of the number of cases and deaths during the Wintermenths of 1872.



work. THE TRIBUNE has been instrumental in breaking up the emigrant robber ring; it has exposed the abuses of the steerage, and of the licensed hoarding houses. It has now to expose a sham Emigration Society which swindles, not the immigrant, but the public, under pre-

tense of aiding immigrants. Early this year prominent persons in all parts of the country began to receive letters, of which the following

Is an example:

THE UNITED GERMAN-AMERICAN SOCIETY. — Central Bureaus: For the German States, No. 48 News Priederick-strasse, Berlin. For the United States, office, Flimpton Buildings, New-York; P. O. Box No. 4,070. Hugo Eloesser, Secretary: M. Mandl, Treasurer; Dr. S. Ehrenberg, President.

Hon. —: We beg to direct your kind attention to the inclosed extract from The Times, in connection with our pamphlet on "Emigration from Germany," being assured that your generous support will not be withheld from our work in the service of humanity. With profoned respect, your very obselled as servant,

Higo Eloesser, Sec'y U. G. A. S.

These letters were most formid ble-looking documents; beside the beautifully printed heading, in the margin were the names of the "Branch Bureaus in America,"

were the names of the "Branch Bureaus in America," which appeared to be in every State, and "Branch Bureaus in Germany," which were as numerous. The letters were also stomped with the seal of "The German-American Society"-a nice bit of die-sinking, which showed the American eagle with the flags of the United States and Germany in either claw.

The extract alluded to was one of a series on "Immigration and Emigration," which were published in that journal, and the pamphlet on Emigration was one of eight pages, entitled "The Exodus of the Nineteenth Century," adorned with a wood-cut of Columbia and the eagle smiling upon a railroad train, and as a motto, the seventh and eighth verses of the third chapter of Exodus The letters were in every case addressed to Americans, and to members of the Republican party only. Why their "generous support" was solicited, the following extract will show:

extract will show:

TEMPORARY ARANDONMENT OF THE MOVEMENT.

We had already made excellent progress in this work, when the imperative duty of the hour demanded of us that we should participate in the great Presidential campaign of 1872. Subsequently all of our branch organizations throughout the country were pressed into service; a German national convention was held under our anspices, which indorsed the Kepublican candidates, and an address tendered to Minister Washburne on his return from France, thinking him for the protection he afforced to the suffering Germans during the siego of return from France, thanking him for the pafforded to the suffering Germans during

The pamphlet goes on to describe how they had re umed the emigration scheme; how arranger be made for settling the emigrants before they started on the journey; how they are protected on board ship and on landing; how the "colonies" are transported to their destinations, and the great care that is given to their religion and education.

TRIBUNE reporters were directed to make inquiries respecting this new Society. The German Emigrant Sodety; knew nothing of it; prominent German citizens had never heard of it, and hence inquiries had to be made of the officers themselves. A reporter was instructed to see the officers of the Society and report on

Arrived at Plimpton Buildings, the reporter looked for the office of the U. G. A. S.; a small room on the first floor had a blue window bliad with the legend "Journal of Emigration," no other name or sign was displayed. The floor of the office within was bare. At a small table opposite sat a youth with a bairless, pimpled face, who absequently proved to be Hugo Eloesser, the "Secretary." At another table, scantily covered with papers, sat two men smoking cigars, who appeared to have no ther occupation. The Secretary was wasting the Society's stationery by drawing on his blotting-pad. One of the two was a man about 37 years of age, with good catures, wearing all his hair on his face, but with restless shifting eyes hidden by gold-rimined spectacles. The second was older, with a sallow complexion and keen, pieroing eyes. Both were well-dressed, and gems sparkled in their shirt fronts.

"Is this an office of the Emigration Society," the reporter asked, handing a card (not one containing his real name or occupation.)

He was assured that his presence gave great pleasure to these gentlemen, and after being scated, the man with the spectacles, who said he was Dr. Ehrenberg, the President of the Society, asked:

Who sent you here, Mr .- 1"

"I heard of your society easually, and being interested in the subject, thought I should like to know its objects." ciety," said the sallow man who was introduced as Mr. Maudl, the Treasurer, "is formed on the humanitarian principle. We desire to aid and assist the migrant. It has been called into existence by the great dissatisfaction felt by every one with the conduct of the Commissioners of Emigration, who have turned Castle Garden into a political ring. The corruption which exists there is horrible. Dr. Ehrenberg and myself were largely interested in the late political campaign, and having worked for the Republican party who are now in power, they are all our friends, and we have every facility and power for giving the emigrant aid and ad vice. Our object was interrupted by the campaign, but we are now renewing it."

"Yes," said Ehrenberg, "all the principal men in office are our friends. We have letters from the President, Vice-President, Minister Washburne, and others. "Who form your Society I" was asked, "and is it ex-

elusively a German one ?" "We are only the officers, you knew," said Mandl; "if we were at liberty to mention the directors, you would be surprised at the number of prominent men who are connected with us. You heard of me, no doubt, during the campaign. I was all through the country, lecturing and forming branches of the Association in th Republican interest, and I did a great deal toward the victory of the party."

During this last speech Ehrenberg wrote a few lines on paper, and pushed them carelessly over the table toward Mandl, which he as carelessly scanned.

"You see all the great railroad men are our friends," he resumed. "As we have such powerful interest, they wish to please us, and therefore the trains we send our emigrants by have second-class cars fitted up with losets, and supplied with ice water; not like they used o be, simply freight cars, with benches fixed in them. We have done all this. All the railway men know us. the opening of the Texas Pseule Railway the other day, but we could not go. Show Mr. — that letter from the President; but no, perhaps it would be induserset; it is, of a private nature, written to us as his friends. But I will show you what the newspapers said of me during the campaign. It is not from vanity, but to show you the great inflaence I and Dr. Ehrenberg have."

Mr. Mandi produced a file of old papers printed during the campaign. The Buffalo Express. The Philadelphia Bulletin, and The Indianopolis Journal had short paragraphs respecting the "German American United Association," and Mr. Mandi's presence in those cities. The Indianapolis Journal calls him the Hou. Mr. Mandi.

cattes. The Indianapolis Journal calls him the Hon. Mr. Mandl.

"You publish a Journal of Emigration, I see !" "Oh yes," said Mandl: "but the fact is we have not published it quite regularly lately. We had a certain number printed and sent to the gentlemen who are friendly to us. We have no copies by us, but will send you some."

"Show Mr. Washburne's letter," saggrested Dr. Ehrenberg. "I don't think I have it," said Mandl: "but here is a letter of Gov. Washburn of Wisconsin," and he showed the reporter the signature of that official. As he took the letter away, the reporter saw enough to show that it was sent with a cheek for \$50 for services rendered during the campaign.

"Who are the heads of your society then!" was asked. "We are not at liberty to say, but we are only the officers. We take no money from the emigrants. It is entirely on the humanitarian principle. Mr. Mandl has formed the society all through the States, and I have been to Europe and appointed agents everywhere."

"If you cannot give me the names of your directors,

has formed the society all through the estates, have been to Europe and appointed agents everywhere."

"If you cannot give me the names of your directors, can you not give me some of your papers or reports?"

"We shall have great pleasure in sending them to you, but we must apply to the Executive Board first. We are only the officers, you know, and cannot do anything without the sanction of the Board."

"How many emigrants have you received through your agencies?"

"The reports we will send you will show yon everything. I forgot to mention that we are strongly supported by the Government and all sensible Americans, because they see that our action is the only way to keep up the balance of power against the Irish and Roman Catholic party."

A SHAM EMIGRANT SOCIETY.

A POLITICAL ORGANIZATION RESORTING TO SWINDLING.

PROMINENT GERMAN POLITICIANS RAISING MONEY FROM THE CHARITABLE ON FALSE PRETENSES—THE UNITED GERMAN-AMERICAN SOCIETY A HUMBUG.

"There seemed to be a secret league, a tacit conspiracy, on the part of all concerned in dealing with emigrants, to fleece and pluck them without mercy, and pass them from hand to hand as long as anything could be made out of them. The poor foreigners were virtually helpless against any sort of imposition and fraud."

Thus says Dr. Kapp in his work on Immigration respecting the treatment of emigrants in the old days. All this has been changed; the Commission of Emigration, degraded though it now is to politics, has done a good work. The Tribune has been instrumental in breaking in the emigrant robber ring; it has cyposed the abuses in which, or course, they never did, but gave him which, or course, they never did, but gave him which, or course, they never did, but gave him which, or course, they never did, but gave him which, or course, they never did, but gave him which, or course, they never did, but gave him which, or course, they never did, but gave him which they were pleased to call a requery which

the outside of envelopes.

Another reporter of The Tribuys was sent to make inquiries, with the same result. They promised to forward him papers, which, or course, they never did, but gave him what they were pleased to call a report, which consisted of extracts from The Commercial Advertiser of the "Grand German National Convention" held in the Testion Assembly Rooms on October 24, "at which Dr. S. Ebrenberg presided" and "Mr. Mandl, a scholar and a Bhished oraior," addressed the meeting.

Other inquiries were made concerning these men, all of which went to establish that the "society" was a myth; that Mandl & Ehrenberg, were the "Executive Board;" that they have no emigrants threath or agents; that they have had no emigrants sent to the 'reare; that they would not know what to do with them; nor do they want anything to do with the emigrant personally; but that they are flourishing on the proceeds of the collars sent them by charitable but mistaken persons.

Finally the reporter on his last visit to Primpton Building remonstrated with Mandl that he had not seen the reports. He offered to sunsertibe to The Journal of Entgration. Mandl, after some excuses, said that the Excentive Board had decided that they could not give information, that their time could not be occupied by answering idle inquiries; that they had so much to do; they were so busy; they were very sorry, but they were only servants; they could not do anything without the consent of the board; they had so much to do; they were so bear they could not anything without the consent of the board; they had so much in origination. We have to go to Albany this week. Gov. Dix knowing our humanitarian principles has sent for us to naive upon the appointment of the new Commissioners of Emigration. We are very sorry, we are only servante; our pamphiet gives overy information." He was not surprised at any tale Mandl might fell, but was surprised to read in the journal which they had claimed as sort of organ, that "Gov. D'x received a visit from the Executive Boa overnor promised to give due consideration to the sug-

gestions."

At the present time the country is being delaged with a second circular contaming the extract as above, and accompanied by Number 6 of The Journative Emigration, which appears to have been printed especially for that purpose, as it cannot be procured at their office. The following advertisement of the concern was inserted in the German papers of a recent saturday. It will be seen that no manes wantever are appended to the

en that no names whatever are appended to the will be seen that no band;
ridiculous announcement;
Usirray Grana American Society.

GENNAN ARERICAN SOCIETY.

No imperial Parvertiment:

No imperial Parvertiment:

No imperial Parvertiment:

No Ambornary!

GENNAN PELLOW-GUTTERNAY:

No Ambornary!

Vide most indiscritize and scaling American critisms, was devote to its tense factor entire in wealth, was organized for the expression of the entire enti

The date of the first mass meeting in Cooper Institute will be an THE EXECUTE BOARD UNITED GRAMAN-AMERICAN SOCIALL. New-York, April 9, 1873.

### THE OFFICERS' EXPLANATION. ANOTHER FRUITLESS ATTEMPT TO GET SATISFAC-

TORY ANSWERS-A MYSTERIOUS EXECUTIVE EOARD.

On the following Monday a TRIBUNE reporter, who had not previously called at the effice, and was therefore unknown to the officers, visited Plimpton Building in order to become acquainted with the "Executive Board," and to learn the business on which the "numerous patrons" might wish to be acco A notice on the door informed the curious that business hours were from 9 to 11 a. m. and from 2 to 4 p. m. As the reporter's call was made too late for the morning session he was compelled to wait until 2 p. m. Soon after this hour Mr. Mandl appeared, and was soon fo lowed by the reporter. Mr. Manul seemed surprised at the invasion of his privacy, and asked the visitor's name and business in terms not especially courted The reporter presented a card bearing his name, and briefly stated that he had seen the advertisements of the Society in the German newspapers and wished to make inquiries in reference to its nistory and objects.

"Why do you want to know about the Society !" Because I am interested in the subject of immigra tion, and so is the public. This is something new to me, and I want to write it up. Who are your directors, and Executive Board? What are you doing to aid the German immigrants? Tell me all about your work and

plans." The answers were as vague and unsatisfactory as those to previous visitors had been. Mr. Mandl said that the organization in this city was perfect, but the numerous branch societies which had existed during the political campaign had since die2 out to a great extent It was proposed to revive them, and for this purpose a mass meeting would be held at Cooper Institute at an early day. He could not say when it would be held, but seting of the Executive Board would take place next week, at which all the arrangements wo made. He said there was a constant effort making by leading Germans to maintain the national spirit in this country. Opposition to this was one of the purposes of his organization. In confirmation of this statement he handed the reporter a proof-sheet of an address "to our German-American fellow-citizens," in which " the lofty aims" of the society are stated at great length On the same proof was an account of an interview by the Executive Board with Gov. Dfx, in which sugge tions were made by the former in regard to snitable men for a new Board of Commissioners of Emigration. The reporter asked Mr. Mandl who were the geatlemen who visited the Governor. He replied that he had done so with Dr. Ehrenberg, and others, but declined to mention the names of the others. He said that the directors and the members of the Executive Committee and Advisory Board medualed leading German and American edizons of New-York, but it would do no good to give their names. They were gentlemen who gave their time gratuitously to the work, and who did not wish to be bothered about the matter, except as their regular meetings. They where nothing made public, as publicity would only create opposition. The Commissioners of Emigration were already hostile to the movement, as was natural enough.

The reporter suggested that the society was obtaining publicity by its own act in publishing the advertisement. The reporter asked Mr. Mandl who were the gentlemen

city by its own act in publishing the advertisement ementioned. Mr. Manui replied that it would only above mentioned. All, hatter replied that it would one ittract the attention of those whom they desired t reach. The movement spoke for itself. All who wishe to participate would have an equal voice in its organiz-tion. It was unnecessary to puolish the manes of those who were employed in the preliminary movement. Every inquirer betrayed by his inquisitiveness the facwho were employed in the preliminary movement. Every inquirer becayed by its laquelstiveness the final his heart was not in the movement, and the wanted nothing to do with such a man. "If," said "they have confidence in me and in Dr. Ehrenberg, it is enough." He added that the next meeting of its enough." He added that the next meeting of its executive Board would be published in the right of which probably, reporters would be invited in the time to the seciety. The reporter told he that he had been instructed to study it until the had been instructed to study it until the had been instructed to study it until the had been instructed to study it was unable to learn. What he had learned, but what was unable to learn. What he beared, but what was unable to learn. What he beared, but with the field: Dr. Ehrenberg and Mr. Mandl contitute it society, with Elocaser possibly as partner, more prosociety, with kloeseer possibly as partner, more proba-bly a clerk. Their object is to obtain money from the carritable and credulous, to be expended as may seem good to themselves. In the last conversation Mr. Mrau and not even pretend that be had ever aided an immi-grant otherwise it in by advice.

# FRAUDS IN THE MICHIGAN LAND OFFICE.

FRAUDS IN THE MICHIGAN LAND OFFICE.

From The District Free Press.

The rumors of corruption in the State Land Office, not would set at rest by the result of the impeachment trial of the late Commissioner of the Land Office, Edmonds, have at last developed into something tanglishe. When Gov. Bagley began his official daties he determined to make a thorough overhauling of the affairs of the State Land Office, with a view to discovering the truth of the matter in "relation to the alleged frauds. This involved an immense amount of labor, and the facts will be set forth by Gov. Bagley in a special message to the Legislature. Briefly set forth, they are as follows:

Over 4,000 acres of valuable lands, to which the State of Michigan and not the slight at calm, were sold for the paltry soum of \$5,001—only \$1.25 per acre. Three

but we must apply to the Executive Board first. We are only the officers, you know, and caunot do anything without the sanction of the Board."

"How many emigrants have you received through your agencies?"

"The reports we will send you will show you everything. I forgot to mention that we are strongly supported by the Government and all sensible Americans, because they see that our action is the only way to keep up the balance of power against the Irish and Roman Catholic party."

All this time the Secretary was spoiling the blotting pad. The self-consciousness of virtue which is since through Messrs. Ehrenberg and Mandl; the noble manner in which they shoked to their humanitariah principles, and the reforms they by their vast influence had effected on the emigrant cars; the skillful way in which they shoke of themselves as only officers, and their almsions to the mysterions Executive Board, whose names, if mentioned, would nationish the subject, warded the almost is the mentioned, which they spoke of themselves as only officers, and their almsions to the mysterions Executive Board, whose names, if mentioned, would nationish the subject, warded the almost in the opper peninsula were sold for Micharan and not the site of Wicheran and not the site of Wicheran and all charty series of "Indennative and the State of the Michael and State, and the subject during the lands were not in the market. The would have been worth at least \$100,000; but such little directions they were would have been worth at least \$100,000; but such little directions and of the would have been worth at least \$100,000; but such little directions and of the would have been worth at least \$100,000; but such little directions and of the which the would have been worth at least \$100,000; but such little directions and of the which the would have been worth at least \$100,000; but such little directions and of the which the whole have been worth at least \$100,000; but such little directions and of the which the would have been worth at least \$100,

## RING RULE AT WASHINGTON.

AN EXTRAVAGANT BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS. HOW THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS CONDUCTED-AN INTERVIEW WITH W. W. CORCORAN, THE MIL-

LIONAIRE AND PHILANTHROPIST, CONCERNING THE IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ENDRMOUS EX-PENDITURES-HIS OPINION OF THE WASHINGTON

FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. Washington, April 8.-I called upon W. W. Corcoran, esq., the banker and philanthropist, who is largely interested in roal estate, and is reported to be the wealthiest man in this city. He has made liberal gifts of landed property to found and sustain the Corceran Art Gallery, the Louise Home for Aged Ladies who have, through misfortune, been reduced to want, and other charitable institutions.

Mr. Corcoran has just recovered from a severe illness, s now improving, and able to ride out almost every day. Although advanced in years, Mr. Corcoran seems men tally as vigorous as ever, and is keenly alive to everything appertaining to the welfare of the community in which he has so long resided. Having heard and read a great deal in reference to the manner the so-called improve-ments at the national capital were conducted by what is known as the Board of Public Works, I asked Mr. Corcoran his views upon these improvements. Mr. Corcoran replied that he had been quite ill, and was unable to take any particular part in the discussion of local questions, although he had a large pecuniary interest in, and felt a deep solicitude for, the future of the national capital, where he had so long resided, having watched the growth of the city almost from its infancy. He said : I have been a tax-payer many years, but I cannot at this moment recall the number of local governments under which we have lived, since I have been a citizen of

Reporter-During the earlier local administrations in the District, were not the men elected and appointed to ffice your ablest and best citizens, who considered it more a duty to accept these municipal stations for the general good, than for the pecuniary benefits attached to these places?

Mr. Corcoran-I think so; at least that was the aim of all good citizens. Our earlier local governments were very economically managed.

Reporter-Up to the time of the late war, was not the ate of taxation in the District of Columbia, according your observation, less than in most of the States ! Mr. Corcorau-It was no more. I think it was consid-

rably less than in some of the States. Reporter-Was not Mayor Emery elected to succeed Mr. Howen as Mayor, upon a distinct platform of economy and reform, and upon charges against Mr. Bowen's administration that it had been extravagant (

Mr. Corcoran-Reform and economical government erved as the great rallying cry at the time Mayor Emery was elected, but his administration was displaced too soon by the Territorial Government to have much of a trial.

Reporter-Was not one of the principal arguments sed by those in favor of a territorial government that the blending of the three governments of the Cirles of Washington, Georgetown, and the Levy Court, or county, would largely reduce the number of officers and expenses in administering local government in the District ?

Mr. Corcoran-Yes, I think it was; and under that upposition and promise the Territorial Government was indoubtedly created by Congress, and the control of our ocal matters practically taken out of the hands of the citizens of the District.

Reporter-I see it stated in some of the newspapers, that instead of reducing the number of officers and expenses under this new government, the number of ffleers has been more than doubled, the salaries have been largely increased, and the general running expenses of the new District government are five or six times as much as the average under the three last administrations of Washington, Georgetown, and the Levy Court. Lat your opinion that these newspaper state nents are substantially correct or otherwise !

Mr. Corcora .- Newspaper statements are sometimes xaggerated, but so far as I have been able to judge, the expenses have been largely increased under this new covernment; and I think a large number of new officers

ave been created. Reporter-I notice in The Escaing Star, which I undertand is owned partly by Mr. Shepherd, the Vice Presilent of the Board of Public Works, and should be good authority, that Mr. Slater, the Collector of Taxes, reports that he has received between Sept. 1, 1872, and March 22, 1873 (a little less than seven months), \$1,073,-110 05. Yet, I learn that the Police Fund, the School Fund, and the Poor Fund, have all given out, or have been used by the Board of Works for other purposes. Can you tell me where this large sum of money has Mr. Coreoran-I cannot tell. It is very strange, with

all this revenue collected from the people, that the police force are not paid, and that the school teachers are even in a worse condition. If these appropriations have been used for other purposes, it is a bad state of affairs, and shows that something must be radically wrong in the financial management. Reporter-The District Government as now consti-

Reporter—the District Governor of the Board tuted is practically under the control of the Board of Public Works, composed of Gov. Cooke, Messrs. Shepherd, Magruder, Brown, and Class. Is it not? Mr. Cercoran-Yes. I so understand it. The Board of Public Works seem to run the whole thing.

Reporter-Have these men generally consulted with he citizens residing on the different streets and avenues in the city in regard to the improvements contemplated, or have they rushed on headlong and torn up the streets, atting down and filling up wherever they chose, without regard to the opinions or rights of those to be affeeted thereby ! Mr. Corcoran-They may have consulted with some.

They have cut down in front of some people's property to an extent which renders it almost impossible to secure an entrance to their homes, and have proceeded generally without regard to the wishes of those whose property was affected.

Reporter-In passing over the city within a day or two for the purpose of examining into the charges that have been made against the Board of Public Works, I notice that the concrete pavement on Ninth-st., and all the streets west of the War Department, and in fact all the streets laid with concrete under the anspices of the Board of Public Works, are sinking away. Large openings or holes have appeared in many places. In short, all of the concrete pavements, except that laid in front of the Arlington Hotel, are in a wretched condition. In your drives about the city, have you noticed the places which I have named; and if so, can you tell me the reason why the Board has not jut down as good pavement as you caused to be laid in front of the Arlington Hotel ! Mr. Corcoran-I have noticed some of the places to

which you refer. The work in front of the Arlington was well done; the road-bed was properly prepared, and the concrete laid in a workmanlike manner. The work n the streets to which you refer is badly done, and in less than three years they will be in a worse condition than if this inferior work had never been performed. The pavement in front of the Arlington seems to wear well and to stand all kinds of weather, as this kind of payement generally will when of good quality and roperly laid. As the work in front of the Arlington vas put down by property-owners before the Board of Public Works took possession of our streets, I was careful to secure skilled workmen, and consequently the

sork has proved very satisfactory.

Reporter—It is said the Board of Public Works have txed a price at from \$3 to \$3 50 per square yard for concrete pavement, and have given the work out, without competition, to their favorite contractors. Now, if the pavement I have described is a fair specimen of the work performed by these contractors, there must be a big leak omewhere. What is your idea of it ?

Mr. Corcoran-The work is miscrable. No competition was allowed as I understand it, and the contracts were distributed around to the friends of the " powers that be." I should not think that kind of pavement to which you have referred ought to cost more than \$1 50 a yard ; although I am told by good authority that the Board of Works have paid or agreed to pay \$3 and upward a yard. It has been evident for some time that there is a leak, but the tax-payers thus far have been unable to stop it. Reporter-In examining the wood pavement I find that the round-block pavement on Third-st, and on H-st.,

as well on several other streets in different parts of the city, seems to have been affoat during the late rains, although I am told it has been laid but a short time. It is also said that much of the square-block pavement is cut from lumber of poor quality-spruce and sap pine. The prices are said to be \$3 to \$3 50 per square yard.

Mr. Corcoran—These contracts seem to have been given around to favorites, and I presume the prices you have

been put down in great haste, without giving the brick and mortar a reasonable time to harden; that many of

and triangles have been and are being very handsomely fitted up in a way to attract the eye of stringers, somewhat after the siyle Mr. Tweed fitted up like places in New-York City during the tast days of his administration. Can you teil me whether or no file fitting up of these squares is paid for by Geu. Babenek as Acting Commissioner of Peblic Buildings and Groanda, not-withstanding the Beard of Works seem to ret credit for these improvements?

Mr. Coteorau-1 am not advised as to whether they are all paid for by Gen. Babenek as you have stated, although I heard that those on the site of the old Northern Liberty Market were jointly done by Babenek and the Board of Works.

Reporter-In looking over the list of appropriations made by the District Legislature I see that the \$1,000,000 loan necessarily involves special assessments assainst private properly of \$2,000,000 more, making \$5,000,000, and that more than \$1,000,000 admittent has been appropriated under various acts, for which the bonds of the city are propably now outstanding in some form. In looking over the appropriations by Congress I find that since this new government was organized, Congress has appropriated money which has gone into the hands of this Board of Panije Works, amounting to \$5,500,000 more, making \$10,000,000 of \$11,000,000, beside the regular revenues of the District, which they have handled during less than the two years they have been in office.

Mr. Corcoran-The appropriations to which you refer are of leage amounts.

-I see that a Committee of Conference in the

Reporter—I see that a Committee of Conference in the closing hours of the last session of Congress put amendments into the Sandry Civil Appropriations bull appropriating something over \$5,000,000 to be paid over to the Board of Works. Yet I have that the contractors and creditors of the District Government have not been paid, and that nearly a riot occurred a few days since at the headquarters of the Board. How do you account for the non-payment of these bublithes, after these vast appropriations by the Legislature of the District and by Congress?

the non-payment of these imbilities, after these vast appropriations by the Legislature of the District and by Googress?

Mr. Corcoran—I cannot say what has become of the money. It looks strange to me that these contractors are not paid, and that such a state of affairs as you have described is allowed to exast.

Reporter—As it is admitted that a large amount is still due the contractors, although many of the streets in the central portion of the city are not over half improved or paved, and an official pashcation was made in The Star, a few days since, that certificates of indebtedness would be issued to the contractors for unpaid balances due them, do you not consider the issuing of these certificates affired violation of the act of Congress which limits the indebtedness of the District to \$10,000,000?

Mr. Corcoran—There seems to have been paid out little attention to law. I presume these certificates were issued to quiet contractors. Something had to be done by this Beard, law or no law, to prevent these contractors from raising an excited mob of unpaid employ es.

Reporter—Was not the \$50,000,000, at which the taxable property in this city was assessed when this new government came into power, a more just and equilitation valuation than the nearly \$100,000,000 to which the new assessors under the supervision of the Board of Works have swellon the valuation, in order to avoid or evade the act of Congress, which provides they "shall not key general taxes of more than two per cent in any one year?"

Mr. Corcoran—I think the former valuation was a very fair one. The improvements which have been made have doubtless somewhat increased the valuation of property, but the taxes under the present assessments are cnormous, and in many cases exceed the actual value of the property, while the special assessments more than offset the benefits arising from these improvements.

Exporter—On have or have had a large amount of

ments more than offset the benefits arising from these improvements.

Reporter—You have or have had a large amount of real estate upon which you have paid tax in the District of Columbia, some of which I understand you have placed in trust for the support of the Corceran Art Gallery, Louise Home, and various other institutions of special benefit to the city. Does not the borden of general and special taxation upon the tax-payers of the Diatrict by this local government bear harder and prove more burdensome to the poorer classes than upon your self and others having a large amount of real estate, however oppressive it may seem to you?

Mr. Corcoran—The general and special taxes are not denot a heavy burden to properfy-owners, and mass necessarily bear very hard upon those owning small homes, and in many cases practically amount to continue the large property-owners no doubt feel greatly aggrioved, aithough it may not take their homos as in the case of the poorer classes.

Reporter—I notice that in defense of the Board of Werks the newspapers in this District are constantly asserting that the old residents or wealthy portion of the tax-payers of Washington are opposed to improvements, and have held back and attempted to retard all improvements.

Mr. Corcoran—I do not think there is any real foundary and the contents and have held back and attempted to retard all improvements.

improvements.

Mr. Corcoran—I do not think there is any real foundation to these statements, and I do not take that judicious and economical improvements would be opposed
by any one. I know of no class of persons who are opposed to improving and beautifying the capital, if the
work is well done and in an economical manner. I have
favored improvements, and been willing to bear my rule
share of such taxation, and I only object to an improper
and injudicious use of the revenues extracted from the
people by taxation. ople by taxation. Reporter-I see, in looking over the testimony takes

Reporter-I see, in looking over the testimony takes in the investigation before a committee of Congress, that is nevestigation before a committee of Congress, that is nevestigation before a committee of Congress, that is never the congress of the congres some went even to the extent of landston. Yet, because I preferred to dispose of what was my own as one seemed best, instead of having it taken from me, I have been assailed by this shoushized press in the most measured terms; and if at my time of life I were to enter the contest and advocate openly what I behaved to be right and just, these papers would not leave a sured of my contuper my back from the way I would be assailed. It is not the \$140,000 or the \$150,000 a year that it taken from the people and given to these newspapers that works the greatest rights. It is the fact that takes are sums, paid out under the process of paying for advertising, etc., enable the managers to manipulate and control public opinion, and to crush out every newspaper, and, in fact, every man, that dares to speak out plainly in regard to the wrongs which have been keaped upon the people of this District. If a man should start

Works have already made away with \$3,005,000 of 1,000, inwing more than one-half of the improve-yet to be made, ought they not to retire from and have prudent and economical men put in Mr. Corcoran-These men are appointees of the Presi-

Mr. Corcoran—These men are appointees of the President, and cannot be reached by the people. Therefore I do not consider the people ressonsible for the present state of analys here in the capital. I think if they could have a chance to express their unbiased judgment in regard to these matters, a different state of things would soon be brought about.

Reporter—Have you ever known any municipal of local government which was as oppressive and extravaginat as the present Discret Government, embracing as it dues only about six miles square of territory !

Mr. Corcoran—I do not remember to have ever known such a state of affairs to exist in any other community as I have seen here within the past few years.

As Mr. Corcoran rews matters in the District, so do many of the best and most wealthy cinicals. Now comes the question, who is responsible tor this condition of affairs!

AMERICAN IRON SHIPS.

THE PROGRESS MADE IN PHILADELPHIA-AMERICAL IRON PROVED TO BE SUPERIOR TO BEITISH. The American steamships in course of con-

The American steamships in course of construction at train per sons sine-yard for the Philadelphia into between this port and Great Britain are built of American fron, made in our own State. It is of American fron, made in our own State. It is of American fron is that the other fron steamships on the belaware, from Kaighn's Point to Chester and Winnington, are constructed. This industry, commenced unfor viecumstances of great discouragement, has grown to be one of communiting importance, as we have recently pointed out in these columns. It required a high degree of courage to undertake to build the Liverpool line here, considering that at the time when those ships were placed upon the stocks is cost from 20 to 30 per cent more to build steamers here of American fron than it cost for fron ships of equal carrying capacity built in Great Britain, and it was with these cheaper ships thatour Laverpool line wound mave to compete. But our Philadelphia business men and ship builders had the courage. Since then the difference on the cost of producing iron steamers has been reduced in our favor by the rise in wages, coni, and material in Great Britain. The difference now is not more than 10 to 15 per cent, and it is the perpose of the following observations to show that the American iron ship, through the superiority of our Pennsylvania ship metal, is worth far more than the difference of cost.

A few weeks ago the steamer Winnington of Clyde's line, built at Winnington, Dol., of American iron, ran with great force upon a reef off the Florids coast, will on her way from New-York to Hayann what a tuil cargo, Seventy feet of the length of the ship was on the reef, where it pounders for 12 hours every time the easy was thrown overboard, the ship than king here was backen off, and she went on her way to Hayana, where her condition was examined. It was found that, while the heaty more facilities, and the reef had dented and bulged sons of her tron places, not one of them was broken, and only one of them in any degree cracked.

her condition was examined. It was found that, which the heavy "pounding" she had come through when aground on the reef had denied and bulged some of her iron plates, not one of them was broken, and only one of them in any degree cracked. A smail patch was all that was unmediately required, when she took in a heavy peorge, carried it to New York, and then came around to Cramp's shippard to have the dents taken out of her iron plates. This is all that happened to the American-built ship, whose plates, or at least that portion of them subjected to the strain, are of Pennsylvania-made iron. The plates were simply bent out of shape, and so slightly damaged that they were reroiled cold and put back again. The great tenacity of the iron resisted that fremendous "pounding" on the reef for more than not a day without breaking. It is this invaluable quality which the owner of a Delaware River built ship gets for his additional is per cent of cost.

Now, let us look at the other side of the question. Some time in January the British-built from steamship Potomac ran into a field of hen in the "Horseshee," he low the city, and the see cutright furough the iron plates of her bow, and wedged itself fast in the open fracture. This sufficiently fells the story of the difference between the cheap iron of the British built vessels and our hone manufacture. But there is more to tell, for the Delaware River built iron steamer Guil Stream, a smailer vessel than the Potomac, plunged through the same ice-field that had out through the low of the Potomac, and brittle, the fracture having something of the appearance of cast from Plates of that quality are not worth so much by \$10 a ton as the tron in our Delaware kiver built ships. But they are dear at any price. If sure a tirred British plates, taken from the Potomae kiver built ships. But they are dear at any price. If sure the reside the hips built on the River clyde. The four mole than the ships built on the River clyde. The four mole towest so of the Windhagton were many, which re and mortar a reasonable time to harden; that many of them are too small and of insufficient capacity to carry off the water; that during the heavy rains last Pall numbers of them burst, and romain at the present time in an unfaished state.

Mr. Corcoran—I have not seen many of them, but from hearsay I should judge the sowers were, in many instances, insufficient. I understand that some of them bearst on Seventh and Nuthers, near the new market, and pernaps in other praces, during neavy rains.

Reporter—I notice that large numbers of small squares

